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Docket No.: 101896-0245  
(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Nam T. Chao et al.

Application No.: 10/709,019

Confirmation No.: 3018

Filed: April 7, 2004

Art Unit: 3732

For: SPINAL CROSS-CONNECTORS

Examiner: Reimers, Annette R

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited via facsimile no. 571-273-8300 to the MS Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

December 20, 2005

By: 

Date of Signature and Mail Deposit

Lisa Adams, Reg. No. 44,238  
Attorney for Applicant(s)MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

Applicants submit this paper in response to the Office Action dated October 5, 2005.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.